World Sanskrit Conference

1472. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a World Sanskrit Conference is held in different countries after every five years; and

(b) what help Government provides to the Indian scholars representing the country at the World Sanskrit Conferences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI). (a) The World Sanskrit Conferences are held in different countries with the interval of two or three years.

(b) The Government of Indian sponsors a delegation consisting of prominent Sanskrit scholars to participate in it and full expenditure is borne by the Government.

Improper functioning of the IRCS

1473. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governmnt are aware that Indian Red Cross Society is not functioning properly and there are reports of corruption and nepotism and what is the method of appointing the managing body of the Indian Red Cross;

(b) whether Government propose to take any steps to improve the matters; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) According to the Indian Red Cross Society Act, the Managing Body of the Society shall consist of a Chairman to be nominated by the President and 20 members of whom:—

(i) Twenty shall be Vice Presidents elected by Branch Committees of 20 States;

(ii) Six shall be nominated by the President;

(iii) Three shall be elected by the Managing Body at its ordinary meeting held immediately preceding the Annual General Meeting-two of whom shall be from such active Union Territory Branches as may be decided by the Managing Body and one member elected by it as the Honorary Legal Adviser. Government have seen news papers reports alleging irregularities in the functioning of the Indian Red Cross Society.

The Indian Red Cross Society and its Managing Body are competent authorities to manage the affairs of the Indian Red Cross Society.

Abortion of Female Foetuses

1474. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the name of detecting genetic abnormalities, certain clinics are taking resource to aborting female foetuses; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any statistics in this regard and what effective steps the Government propose to take to put an end to this practice and punish the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI